GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:39
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2006
EXORBITANT FEES CHARGED BY PRIVATE MEDICAL COLLEGES
Bellarmin Shri A.V.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any mechanism to monitor, supervise and oversee the permission granted by the Medical Council of India to private medical colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding the exorbitant fees charged by the private medical colleges;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken against such colleges?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a) & (b) Medical Council of India(MCI) is a recommendatory body and does not grant permission to private medical colleges. The recommendations of the MCI for grant of permission are examined by the Central Government and the Government after taking additional input/information from the concerned authorities, wherever necessary, give permission. Wherever warranted, Government also conduct inspection for verification of facilities before grant of such permission for establishment of new medical colleges or increase in admission capacity or starting of new or higher course of studies.

(c) to (e) In a judgment dated 14.8.2003 in the case of Islamic Academy of Education, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has clarified that each institution shall have the freedom to fix its own fee structure. However, no institution shall charge capitation fee or indulge in profiteering. Further, the Honb'le Court has directed that each State Government shall set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of a retired High Court Judge to decide whether the fee proposed by the institute is justified and does not amount to profiteering or charging of capitation fee. The said Committee may approve the fee structure proposed by the institute or may propose some other fee which shall be binding on the institute for a period of three years. Any violation in charging of fee is to be looked after by the concerned State Government. The Central Government, however, propose to introduce a Bill on Regulations of admission and fixation of fee in private medical educational institutions.